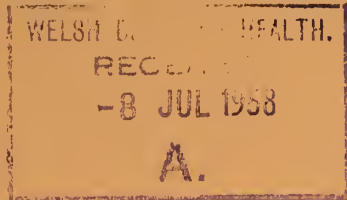


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CRICKHOWELL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL



REPORT

1957

DR. J. TATE, MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

R. A. JACKSON, SURVEYOR & PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.



CRICKHOWELL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.COUNCILLORS.PARISH.

R. G. Jones. (Chairman).	Crickhowell.
H. J. McIntosh. (Vice-Chairman).	Llanelly. (Clydach Ward).
R. G. Davies.	Crickhowell.
Alderman O. H. Williams, J.P.	Cwmdu.
J. Mills Price.	Cwmdu.
Col. P. Fisher, J.P.	Llangenny.
W. L. Powell.	Llangenny.
L. J. Lewis, J.P.	Llangattock.
J. Davies.	Llangattock.
W. W. Harris.	Llanbedr.
W. H. Paske.	Llanelly. (Gilwern Ward).
G. Bush.	Llanelly. (Gilwern Ward).
E. Williams.	Llanelly. (Darenfelen Ward).
Mrs. G.M. Llewelyn.	Llangynidr.
C. S. Farr.	Llangynidr.
W. Nicholls.	Partrishow.

OFFICIALS OF THE CRICKHOWELL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Medical Officer of Health.	J. Tate, M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Clerk & Chief Financial Officer.	F. Foster.
Surveyor & Public Health Inspector.	R.A. Jackson, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., Cert. (Meat & Foods).
Assistant to the Clerk.	A.M. Brace.
Assistant Rating Officer.	V.M.T. Leslie.
Collector.	E.J. Hennessy.
Housing Inspector & Camp Manager.	M.A. Thomas.



To the Chairman and Members of  
the Crickhowell Rural District Council.

Gentlemen and Madam,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Sanitary circumstances of the district, the health of the people and the work of the Public Health Department, during the year 1957.

I wish to tender my thanks to the Members of the Council for their helpful consideration and co-operation in all matters affecting Public Health. Also, the Officers of the Council for their help in all matters appertaining to the duties of the Health Department.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Members,

Your obedient Servant,

J. TATE.

M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.





STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

<u>Population:-</u>	(Registrar General's Estimate)	7,980.
<u>Number of Parishes:-</u>		8.
<u>Acreage:-</u>	According to 1951 census.	46,140 acres.
<u>Rateable Value as at 1st April, 1957.</u>		£54,582.
<u>Product of a Penny Rate:-</u>	Actual 1956/57.	£209. 1. 4d.
	Estimated 1957/58.	£180. 0. 0d.
<u>Rate in the Pound:-</u>	1956/57.	17. 8d.
	1957/58.	£1. 0. 0d.
<u>Water Rate:-</u>	3/- in the £ with a minimum of £1.10.0d. per annum.	
<u>Number of Dwellings (including farms):-</u>		2,426.
<u>Number of Council Houses (included in above figure):-</u>		319.

Crickhowell is a large District in South Breconshire, mainly mountainous in character, with an acreage of 46,140 acres.

The District is divided into eight Parishes, Crickhowell, Llangattock, Cwmdru, Llangenny, Llangynidr, Llanbedr and Partrishow, which are mainly agricultural, and Llanelltydd which is mainly industrial. In the agricultural area the workers are employed mainly in farm work, forestry and quarrying. In the industrial area, the workers are employed mainly in adjacent coalmines in North Monmouthshire and in various factories in Brynmawr and North Monmouthshire, and Elvicta Handtools factory in Crickhowell.

The housing problem remains a most urgent matter, as indeed it is a national problem. The Council are proceeding with building new houses at their various estates in the different Parishes.

Tenants for new houses are selected by means of a Points Scheme adopted by the Council so as to allocate houses to families in the greatest need, conditions of existing accommodation, overcrowding and health circumstances, all rating for "points award".

When new houses are allocated to applicants, their old houses are inspected with a view to their future use. A number of these houses then have a Demolition or Closing Order made on them, if they are unfit for human habitation.

HOUSING - DEMOLITION AND CLOSING ORDERS.

Unfit houses closed under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953. 18.

Unfit houses previously closed and now demolished. 8.

Two ex-Army hutted Camps at Danyparc and Aberbaiden, are still occupied by a number of families, mostly from outside the Council's area.

The number of families in Aberbaiden Camp have been reduced by eight during the year 1957. There were seven families in occupation at the end of the year. The number of families in Danyparc Camp have been reduced by nine during the year 1957. There were eight families in occupation at the end of the year 1957.

Number of applicants for Council Houses on 1st January, 1957.	159.
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Number of applicants remaining on the Council's list 31st December, 1957.	161.
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Total number of post-war Council Houses 1st January, 1958.	319.
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Number of Council Houses completed during the year 1957.	20.
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Number of Council Houses under construction on 31st December, 1957.	24.
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Number of Private Houses completed during the year 1957.	8.
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School Medical Service, Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics, and the provision of school meals are carried out by the County Council.

The health of the District during the year has, on the whole, been good. There has been an absence of any serious outbreaks of epidemic diseases. The majority of the deaths during the year were in the higher age groups. The incidence of Pulmonary Tuberculosis has been low, cases occurring have been adequately and quickly dealt with by the Chest Physicians at their Clinics at Brecon and Pontllanfraith.

There have been no outbreaks of food poisoning during the year. Inspections have been carried out from time to time of various food handling stores, bake-houses, licensed premises and shops selling ice-cream in accordance with the Regulations. Minor defects have been pointed out and corrected. It has not been necessary to take any legal proceedings under the Byelaws, or under the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47.

No action has been necessary under this Section during the year 1957.



SECTION A.V I T A L        S T A T I S T I C S .

<u>Population:-</u>	(Registrar General's Estimate)		7,980.
<u>Total Births:-</u>	Male 71	Female 58	Total = 129.
<u>Total Deaths:-</u>	Male 42	Female 33	Total = 75.
<u>Still Births:-</u>	Male 1	Female 1	Total = 2.
<u>Crude Birth Rate:-</u>			= 16.16.
<u>Crude Death Rate:-</u>			= 9.39.
<u>Infantile Mortality Rate:-</u>	(1 death)		= 7.75.
<u>Transferable Deaths:-</u>	Inward 15	Outward 4	
<u>Comparability Factors:-</u>	Births 1.11	Deaths 1.02	

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS.DEATHS.

<u>Causes.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
All Causes.	42	33
1. Tuberculosis (Respiratory).	1	0
2. Tuberculosis (Other Form).	0	0
3. Syphilitic.	0	0
4. Diphtheria.	0	0
5. Whooping Cough.	0	0
6. Meningococcal Infection.	0	0
7. Acute Poliomyelitis.	0	0
8. Measles.	0	0
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases.	0	0
10. Malignant Neoplasm, stomach.	1	2
11. Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	3	0
12. Malignant Neoplasm, breast.	0	0
13. Malignant Neoplasm, uterus.	0	1
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms.	2	2
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia.	0	0
16. Diabetes.	0	0
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system.	3	6
18. Coronary disease, angina.	3	7
19. Hypertension with heart disease.	0	0
20. Other heart disease.	11	9
21. Other circulatory disease.	2	3
22. Influenza.	0	0
23. Pneumonia.	1	2
24. Bronchitis.	2	0
25. Other diseases of respiratory system.	2	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	0	0
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.	0	0
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis.	0	0
29. Hyperplasia of Prostrate.	1	0
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.	0	0
31. Congenital malformations.	1	0
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	7	0
33. Motor Vehicle accidents.	1	0
34. All other accidents.	1	0
35. Suicide.	0	0
36. Homicides and operations of war.	0	0

SECTION B.

Laboratory Facilities	= Public Health Laboratory, Clytha Square, Newport, Mon.
Ambulance Facilities	= Breconshire County Council Ambulance stationed at Crickhowell.
Nursing in the Home	= Breconshire County Council.
Clinics and Centres	= Welsh Regional Hospital Board and North Monmouthshire Management Committee, War Memorial Hospital, Crickhowell. School Clinic, Market Hall, Crickhowell.

SECTION C.INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

NOTIFICATIONS. The following cases, other than Tuberculosis, were notified during the year 1957:-

<u>Diseases.</u>	<u>Number of Cases.</u>
Measles.	95
Whooping Cough.	5
Erysipelas.	2
Scarlet Fever.	1
Bronchial Pneumonia.	4
Non-Paralytic Poliomyelitis.	1
Paralytic Poliomyelitis.	1

TUBERCULOSIS. A schedule on new cases and removals from the Register is given below.

<u>New Cases.</u>				<u>Removals from Register.</u>			
Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	1	0	0	1	5	0	1

Number of Cases remaining on Register 31st December, 1957.

Respiratory.			Non-Respiratory.		
M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
22	19	41	2	3	5

SCHOOLS. No schools were closed during the year 1957, in consequence of infectious diseases.

SECTION D.SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.W A T E R.SHORTAGE.

A period of over three months without rain, during late Spring and early Summer, resulted in shortage of water to the Clydach Quarry (Main Road) supply area in May, June and July, and to the Crickhowell area. The latter supply was augmented from the Newport Corporation main from 3rd June, 1957 to 19th July, 1957.

The Clydach Quarry (Main Road) supply is the first to be affected by lack of rain. This problem will be solved if, and when, the Ffynnon Gisfaen scheme is installed.

CLYDACH VALLEY (FFYNNON GISFAEN) SCHEME.

The Council's Consulting Engineers have now drawn up an outline scheme for supplying the whole of the Clydach and Gilwern Valley from this source, following their receipt of plans of the new trunk road proposals.

The Consulting Engineer appeared before the Council and elaborated on his report and subsequently the **scheme** was submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for consideration for grant.

MAESGWARTHA.

The 13,000 gallon reservoir, pump house, 3 inch mains and cross connections have been completed and the supply put into operation. This new supply now permits the premises, previously with an inadequate water supply or no supply at all, to be connected to the main sewer.

BWLCH.

The 55,000 gallon reservoir, 3 inch mains and cross connections have been completed and the scheme put into operation.

GILWERN, LOWER COMMON AREA.

A length of 266 yards of old one inch galvanised iron watermain has been relaid in 3 inch cast iron watermain to increase the water pressure to premises in this locality.

GILWERN, NAVIGATION BRIDGE.

In conjunction with the road improvements being carried out to this bridge by the Breconshire County Council, the two 3 inch watermain have been relaid in new pipe under the footway of the new bridge.

REGROUPING OF WATER UNDERTAKINGS.

Various meetings and discussions took place with a view to forming the most advantageous grouping of water undertakings in accordance with the instructions of the Minister of Housing and Local Government.

A South-East Breconshire Joint Water Committee has been set up comprising the Councils of Brynmawr Urban District Council, Brecknock Borough, Brecknock Rural District and Crickhowell Rural District to investigate the possibility of forming a water undertaking embodying the areas of these Councils.



BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION REPORTS.Public Piped Supplies.

Supply.	Samples Taken.	Satisfactory.	Poor.	Unsatisfactory.
Clydach. (Blaenduar)	1			1
Clydach. (Quarry Main Road)	1	1		
Clydach. (Hafod)	1	1		
Crickhowell. (Lower Reservoir)	1	1		
Crickhowell. (Upper Reservoir)	2	1		1
Cwmdu.	1	1		
Gilwern. (Brunant & Maesgwartha)	1	1		
Gilwern. (Hydram)	2	1		1
Llanbedr.	1	1		
Llangattock. (Ffawyddog)	1	1		
Llanagttock. (Tyle)	1	1		
Llangattock. (Hillside)	1	1		
Llangenny. (Cwm Cegr)	1	1		
Tretower.	1			1

There is no evidence of any contamination from a human source, and it would appear that unsatisfactory bacteriological reports are due to animal contamination of surface water gaining access to spring water in the collection areas.

D R A I N A G E   A N D   S E W E R A G E .LLANGATTOCK.

This scheme has now been put into full operation with all house connections completed. Sewers, Pumps and the Sewage Works are all operating satisfactorily.

MAESGWARTHA.

Several closet conversions have taken place at premises now connected to the new water scheme.

LLANBEDR AND GLANGRWYNEY.

Proposed sewage schemes for both these villages have again had to be postponed owing to the general Government financial restrictions.

SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS.

Regular maintenance has been given to the four public sewage plants and the nine treatment plants serving Council House Estates.

Samples of the effluent from the Sewage Works at Gilwern and the new Works Crickhowell were satisfactory and reported upon by the Analyst as follows:-

"Both of these samples are of good quality and conform with the standards of the Royal Commission for Sewage Purification".

PUBLIC CLEANSING - REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The general scavenging service of the area continues to function satisfactorily.

The Gilwern refuse tip was operated on a new heading as the previous working face was causing smoke and smell nuisance to neighbouring cottages. It is hoped to continue on this new heading until the Trunk Road installation will see the demolition of the cottages.

The Crickhowell refuse tip was made stock proof to prevent animals running the risk of contracting foot and mouth disease from the bone marrow of imported meat.

R O D E N T   C O N T R O L .

PEST ACT, 1950. A full time Rodent Operator is employed by the Council.

Infestation treatments carried out during the year:-

Private Dwellings.....	224		
Business Premises.....	9		
Hospital.....	1		
School.....	1		
Sewerage Systems.....		Regular Treatment.	
Refuse Tips.....		"	"
Brooks in Villages.....		"	"
Farms in the area surveyed.			

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948.

Details of the routine inspection at the nineteen factories in the area are contained on separate Ministry forms.



FOOD AND DRUGS.

FOOD CONDEMNED AND VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED. The following goods, were on inspection, found to be unfit and were voluntarily surrendered:-

11 tins Tomatoes.  
 13 tins Peaches.  
 17 tins Pears.  
 13 tins Fruit Salad.  
 17 tins Milk.  
 35 tins Soup.  
 12 tins Pineapples.  
 40 tins Meat.  
 23 tins Peas.  
 13 tins Apricots.  
 5 tins Prunes.  
 7 tins Plums.  
 5 tins Cream.  
 3 tins Sardines.  
 6 tins Pilchards.  
 2 tins Crab.  
 2 tins Oranges.  
 5 tins Beans in Tomato Sauce.  
 6 tins Grapefruit.  
 5 tins Salmon.  
 3 tins Golden Syrup.  
 1 tin Cherries.  
 1 tin Baked Beans.  
 1 tin Tomato Juice.  
 1 tin Spaghetti.  
 1 tin Marmalade.  
 1 tin Raspberries.  
 1 tin Scotch Broth.  
 1 tin Stewed Steak.  
 4 jars Meat Paste.  
 1 jar Sandwich Spread.  
 1 jar Pickled Red Cabbage.  
 12 pkts Mints.  
 13 pkts Jellies.  
 3 pkts Beef Suet.  
 2 pkts Rice Crispies.  
 1 pkt Shredded Wheat.  
 10 lbs Ham.  
 2 lbs Extract of Malt.  
 3 lbs Jam.  
 6 lbs Veal.  
 7 lbs Danish Bacon.  
 1 Bottle Tomato Ketchup.  
 1 Bottle Capers.

MILK.

Persons registered as Retail Distributors of Milk purchased in bulk. 11

Number of Retail Distributors of Milk licensed to sell designated milk. 11

Samples of milk taken during the year, from the stock on the delivery vans of the above Retailers, have all given satisfactory results for keeping quality and, where applicable, negative results to tuberculosis.

## MEAT INSPECTION.

12.

Slaughtering took place on forty nine occasions at the slaughterhouse of Mr. J. Price, High Street, Crickhowell, during the year 1957.

The slaughterhouse is licensed for six monthly periods on the condition that the amount of slaughtering does not increase.

The following animal carcasses were inspected:-

209 Lambs.  
62 Beasts.  
2 Sheep.

and 36 lbs of offal was condemned as being unfit for human consumption.

### Carcasses and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle Excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (if known)	62	-	-	211	-
Number inspected.	62	-	-	211	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis &amp; Cysticerci.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	4	-	-	1	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci.	6.4%	-	-	0.47%	-
<u>Tuberculosis</u>	N I L.				
<u>Cysticercosis</u>	N I L.				

## SURVEYS AND INSPECTIONS.

The following is a summary of the inspections carried out during the year 1957:-

Detailed house inspections.....	459
Public Health Acts.....	434
Food.....	27
Factories.....	19
Complaints investigated.....	35
Scavenging investigations.....	7
Drainage investigations.....	121
Water Supply investigations.....	93

NOTICES SERVED.

Informal.		Statutory.	
Served.	Complied with.	Served.	Complied with.
23	20	-	-